

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Office Action issued May 15, 2008, claims 6 and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rafiah et al., U.S. Patent App. Pub. No. 2003/0109266 (“Rafiah”). Claims 11-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶1 as not disclosing the best mode. Claims 1-5, 8, and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶2 as being indefinite. The drawings were objected to.

Claims 1-15 are now pending in this application. Claims 1-8 and 10-15 have been amended to clarify the subject matter that the Applicant considers to be the invention. No new matter has been added. In particular, claim 11 has been amended to remove the “program product” language and to recite “a program”, which is supported, for example, at page 25, lines 15-18 of the specification. Claims 8 and 10 have been amended to recite the step of storing the schedule information in the information processing device. Claims 1-5 have been amended to remove the “operable to” clause. Claim 7 has been amended to remove the “instead of” language. The applicant respectfully submits that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶1 and ¶2, and the objections to the drawings, have been overcome.

The Applicant respectfully submits that claims 6 and 9 are not unpatentable over Rafiah because even if Rafiah were modified as suggested by the Examiner, the result still would not disclose or suggest the requirements of the claims. Rafiah discloses an integrated journey planner for providing travel information for a user specified journey that deconstructs a user enquiry specifying the journey into a plurality of information requests, each specifying a part of the journey using a single mode of transport. Routes for each part of the journey extracted based on start and end locations input by the user.

By contrast, claim 6 requires receiving location information of a user from an information processing device and inferring a mode of user transportation based on the received location information of a user of the information processing device, and estimating a next stop of the mode of user transportation based on the specific location corresponding to the inferred mode of user transportation in the second storage unit, and the inferred mode of user transportation, and the received location information of a user of the second information processing device. Rafiah does not receive location information of a user, that is, the location where the user is currently located, and Rafiah does not infer a mode of transportation that the user is currently using based on the location information of the user. As a result, Rafiah does not estimate a nest stop based on received location information of user, the inferred mode of user transportation, and a specific location corresponding to the inferred mode of user transportation.

Therefore, claim 6, and claim 9, which depends therefrom, are not unpatentable over Rafiah.

Each of the claims now pending in this application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration of this case and early issuance of the Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested.

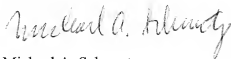
Additional Fees:

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any insufficient fees or credit any overpayment associated with this application to Deposit Account No. 50-4545 (5243-030-US01).

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, all of the Examiner's rejections to the claims are believed to be overcome. The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and issuance of a Notice of Allowance for all the claims remaining in the application. Should the Examiner feel further communication would facilitate prosecution, he is urged to call the undersigned at the phone number provided below.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Michael A. Schwartz". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Michael" being the most prominent part.

Michael A. Schwartz
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Dated: September 15, 2008

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